Supply of safety shoes to CIL

3018. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal India Limited is maintaining a list of suppliers for the supply of safety shoes to the company and its subsidiary companies;

(b) whether Central Government Public Sector Undertakings have not been included in the same list;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what efforts are being made to encourage supplies from Public Sectors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Complaints received from Maharashtra State Electricity Board

3019. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have received complaints from Maharashtra State Electricity Board regarding poor quality and short supply of coal to its thermal power stations;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what action has been taken/ proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) What is the disputed amount of coal bills of CIL with MSEB?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) The quantity and quality of coal supplies by Coal India Limited to Thermal Power Stations of Maharashtra have been generally satisfactory. However, there have been some complaints from power houses of Maharashtra about quality of coal supplies by Coal India Limited. Quality problems relate mainly to grade slippages, presence of extraneous materials in coal and oversized coal. Following steps are being taken to improve the quality of coal sent to consumers:

(i) An action Plan for installation of feeder breakers and coal handling plants is being implemented to ensure that sized coal is supplied to the consumers.

(ii) Stones are being segragated at the time of loading of coal.

(iii) Slow moving picking belts are being provided in coal handling plants for picking up of shale and stone pieces.

(iv) Better supervision is being ensured at the time of loading to maintain quality of coal and developing quality consciousness among workers, supervisors and executives engaged at Railway siding.

(d) The total amount of outstanding dues to Coal India Limited from Maharashtra State Electricity Board as on 31.10.1992 was Rs. 248.76 crores out of which Rs. 163.34 crores was disputed. (Data provisional).

Coal Projects suffering cost escalation

3020. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is it fact that a number of projects taken up by Coal India Ltd. and NLC during the past 10 years, have witnessed a phenomenal cost escalation;

(b) if so, what are the details of each such project where cost escalation has been more than normal as anticipated/ provided for in the project report;

(c) what steps have been taken/ proposed to be taken to check the phenomenal cost escalation effectively; and

(d) What are the details of new guidelines issued in this regard?